



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 11th October 2016 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D Abbott, G Avalon, A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, J Cousins, E George, S Henderson, J Keery, W Knight, T Napper, S Thurgood, I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillor N Cottle, L MacDougall, D Michell
County Councillor A Gloak

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
Terry Dowden - Macebearer
David Greenway – Town Crier

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was opened with the lighting of the Unity candle.

Leslie Wills reported problems with a drainage ditch on the Millstream estate. PCSO Bishop suggested that the Police Cadets could help with clearing the ditch as a community project. The Town Clerk reported that the Deputy Town Clerk is investigating the matter.

Tracey Cohen suggested that Jo Frith, Paralympic gold medallist and resident of Glastonbury be granted the Freedom of the Town.

96. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

97. REPORT FROM GLASTONBURY POLICE BEAT TEAM

PCSO Spencer Bishop reported on behalf of the Beat Team that PC Martha Spikes will be joining the team permanently from 2nd November 2016. PCSO Paul Linsdale also will be joining the team. Following reports of anti-social behaviour, police horses have been deployed in the town and will be returning.

- Councillor Napper reported caravans having been abandoned on the road behind the zigzag building on the Morland's Enterprise Park.
- Councillor Keery asked if there is a check list for referrals to other agencies ie social services etc when dealing with offenders. PCSO Bishop said that officially not but officers do refer people to relevant agencies on their own initiative. He said he would feed back the suggestion to his superior officer.

Councillors were asked to forward questions to the Police prior to the Council meeting.

98. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th September 2016 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury Committee held on 15th September 2016 were accepted
- c) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 27th September 2016 were noted
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 27th September 2016 were accepted
- e) The minutes of the Property and Assets Committee held on 4th October 2016 were accepted

99. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Gloak had circulated a written report to Councillors.

Referring to problems with heavy good vehicles using the A361 through Glastonbury, Councillor Keery noted that when Street Causeway is closed, these vehicles will find an alternative route. Councillor Abbott said she was disappointed not to have heard back from Alun Jones at the County Council since the A361 site meeting in August.

Councillor Knight reported the need for double yellow lines on the corner of Paradise Road and Northload Street.

Councillor Napper said he had been in touch with Civil Parking Enforcement to ask them to come to the town more often.

Councillor Coles reported vehicles and vans parking near the junction of Austin Road causing a hazard.

Councillor Abbott reported camper vans being parked indefinitely in lay bys particularly one parked on the corner of Butleigh Road which is a hazard.

100. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors Coles and Henderson provided written reports.

Councillor Brunsdon reported works to trees obscuring street lights in St Edmund's Road and future works to large trees which were planted in Sedgemoor Way prior to the building of the housing estates, now causing problems to local housing.

Councillor Henderson reported that 26 travellers have nominated a person called Sam to speak on their behalf. There is a meeting with Mendip District Council officers at the Town Hall on 13th October.

Councillor Keery asked for a report on why enforcement officers have not dealt with the site at Coldharbour Bridge.

101. REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCIL

Councillor George said that she would be calling a meeting soon with current members and the new representatives from Sea Cadets, Air Cadets, Red Brick Building Youth Club and Windmill Hill Youth Club. It is hoped that the Youth Council will be able to work with a local graffiti artist on a graffiti wall and the Youth Shelter at Windmill Hill.

102. RESIDENTS PARKING

The Mayor had been asked by a resident to consider residents parking for Rowley Road.

Councillor Keery pointed out that resident's parking permits come at a cost and that they do not guarantee a parking space. Councillor Napper said that there is resident's parking in an area of Street which appears to work well.

Councillor Henderson said that the mechanism for introducing resident's parking is that the residents need to jointly apply to Somerset County Council for resident's parking to be introduced and 80% of residents must be in agreement.

For the time being the Council agreed to leave the matter in abeyance.

103. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT TECHNICAL CONSULTATION

The Town Clerk explained that the consultation includes proposals to extend Council Tax referendum principles to local parish and Town Councils, meaning that a referendum would be required should the precept be increased more than 2% on the previous year. In a climate whereby parish and towns are required to take on more and more services which are being cut by the principal authorities this would not be practical.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) are opposing the government's proposals and asking for support from the parish and Town Councils. It was **RESOLVED** to respond in opposition as recommended by NALC and to use the purchase of St Dunstan's House as an example of how a change in legislation could have hampered the Town Council's efforts to purchase the property for the benefit of the Town.

104. TOR FAIR

Councillor Coles said that the Tor Fair cannot use the current field again as it is not suitable. He contacted Stuart Finney at Mendip District Council to see whether there would be a possibility of using St John's Car Park. The fair organisers were prepared to pay the loss of revenue for 4 days. Councillors were concerned about the noise nuisance for residents in that area.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to offer St Dunstan's Car Park for the use of a small fair.

It was **AGREED** that a working group should be formed with members of the Council and Chamber of Commerce, to investigate the matter. Councillors Black, Coles, Knight, Napper, Tucker and Thurgood volunteered along with Paul Manning from the Chamber of Commerce.

105. REPORT FROM WORKING GROUPS

Councillor George reported from the Town Centre Working Group. The County Council will be replacing the missing parking enforcement signs in the taxi bay at the bottom of the High Street. Consultation with the taxi drivers on removing the taxi bay from the bottom of the High Street replacing it with restricted time parking is imminent. If all goes to plan the existing short term parking between Burns the Bread and the Assembly Rooms will become a loading bay.

Councillor Thurgood said that the URC church has problems with parking when there are funerals or the community bus needs to drop off and collect church users and asked for this to be taken into consideration.

106. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments, now submitted, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes be approved and signed by two members as the Town Clerk's authority to make the payments.

107. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided Councillors with a list of events he had attended since the last meeting. He encouraged Councillors to attend the Abbey Ruin Appeal Quiz Night on 28th October 2016 at the Town Hall.

108. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor George reported her attendance at the Somerset Scout AGM. She will be attending the Mendip Health and Wellbeing Board on 1st November when the next 3 years priorities will be discussed. Councillors were asked to send her any suggestions they may have. She has also met with Tracey Aarons from Mendip District Council to discuss the housing of two Syrian families in the Town and how they may be supported by the community.

Councillor Brunsdon was sad to report the death of Jan Morland and spoke of her kindness and huge contribution she made to the town.

Councillor Tucker was pleased to report that Glastonbury in Bloom was awarded a Silver Gilt by South West in Bloom for the Town displays. He wished to thank Sweet Acre Nurseries and all others involved. The judges recommended more community involvement and that of the schools.

Councillor Avalon asked who was responsible for the lighting through the alley way from the car park to Benedict Street. Councillor Henderson said that he would investigate.

109. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Paul Manning from the Chamber of Commerce reported that the next Breakfast meeting would be at Tor Rugby Club on 14th November at 8am. They now have 50 members. He urged people to support Nationwide Building Society in their efforts to open a branch in the Town by registering their interest via the Nationwide website.

The Mayor reported that he and the Deputy Mayor had met with the Chair and Deputy of Street Parish Council. He will forward a report directly to Councillors.

Councillor Keery reported that repairs have recently been completed on the stonework and plaque on the façade of the Almshouses.

Councillor Coles reported his attendance at the Glastonbury Community Development Trust meeting on 28th September. The Town Clerk said she had been informed by Sara Clay that Street Parish Council have decided not to contribute to the Job Shop service and therefore this year's application to Glastonbury Town Council for grant aid may increase.

Councillor Napper reported that funding had been secured for Mendip Partnership School to move to Beckery.

The Mayor had received two letters complaining about the impact of the Tor Bus only operating for six months. Councillor Keery suggested using the Slinky Bus provided by Mendip Community Transport.

110. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) The Mendip District Council Parish Bulletin for September 2016 was circulated to members.

111. PRESS RELEASES

It was **AGREED** that the Communications Committee writes press releases about the Tor Fair and the South West in Bloom results.

Mayor, 8th November 2016